

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2169 - HB 2352

February 14, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Changes the required qualifications for becoming a senior justice or judge from eight years of credible service as a justice or judge to 25 years of practice as a licensed attorney, in Tennessee or another state, and one year of credible service as a justice or judge.

Requires approval from the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the Civil and Criminal Justice Committees of the House of Representatives, meeting jointly, for any appointment or renewal of a senior judge commission upon recommendation by the Supreme Court. Requires the appropriate committees to meet jointly within 90 days after any recommendation from the Supreme Court.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent the Supreme Court recommends a former justice or judge for a senior judge commission while the General Assembly is out of regular session, the proposed legislation would increase state expenditures by \$10,900 per meeting.

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 17-2-303 authorizes the Supreme Court to appoint senior judges. Tennessee Code Annotated § 17-2-309 requires the court to advise and consult the Judiciary and Finance, Ways and Means Committees of the Senate and the Civil Justice and Finance, Ways and Means Committees of the House of Representatives, whenever the court believes the effective administration of justice requires the appointment of one or more senior justices or judges.
- The proposed legislation requires approval from the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the Civil and Criminal Justice Committees of the House of Representatives, meeting jointly, for any appointment or renewal of a recommended senior judge commission.
- The proposed legislation requires the committees to meet jointly and vote on the Supreme Court's recommendation within 90 days of the recommendation.
- There are 31 members currently appointed to these committees. Members of the General Assembly receive \$352 per day for per diem and travel, consisting a daily per diem of \$229 plus \$0.47 per mile at an estimated 262 roundtrip miles.

- If the Supreme Court makes a recommendation when the General Assembly is not in regular session, the proposed legislation would increase state expenditures by \$10,912 (31 members x \$352 per day) per meeting.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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